THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has launched a Sub-Mission on Control of Fluorosis under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) with emphasis on supply of safe drinking water and installation of defluoridation plants in the endemic areas.

Symposium on Vector-borne diseases

86. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what were the significant aspects of deliberations held during the Bhubaneshwar Symposium on Vector-borne diseases including guinea-worm disease which is still prevalent in Rajasthan, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what are the annual allocations earmarked for the eradication of guineswormdisease all over the country and whether any grant from World Health Organisation is also received in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that developing countries like Bangladesh, Burma, Iraq and Iran held successfully eradicated guinea-worm disease decades ago, while India is still to do so, and

(d) what is the deadline India set to make the nation free of this disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) This sysmosium on the epidemiological prevention and control aspects of various vectorborne diseases discussed the achivements of the National Guinea-worm Eradication Programme in India.

(b) The annual allocation by this Ministry during current Year is of the order of Rs. 50 lakhs. WHO would provide Rs. 24.06 lakhs.

(c) These countries are not reporting any guinea-worm cases.

(d) India has already achieved more than 99 per cent decline in the incidence of Guinea-worm disease and the country is likely to achieve zero percent guinea-worm disease transmission during the year 1995-96.

Measures to prevent rapid growth of population

*87. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 21st November, 1994 captioned "India's population to cross 100 m. mark" by the end of the current century and that population figure would stand at 101 crores by 2000 A.D. and grow up to 216 crore by 2050 according to the Registrar General of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the strict family planning methods adopted by country like China were likely to bear fruit and their population was projected to grow only upto 140 crore by 2050;

(c) whether Government are aware that the continued population increase in India would worsen social tension and would have an adverse impact on the environment, a major threat being faced by developing nations;

(d) if so, what steps Government of India have taken so far in this direction to check further increase in population of the country;

(e) which States implemented family planning procedure in an exemplary manner and which are not strictly following family planning methods in the country; and

(f) whether Government propose to adopt compulsory registration of marriages also, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?